Rough Field Notes - Misc.

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B79-0054/010 (26)

Wawalis

Wowallis was a great hunter, he had almost power of stick with life at one end, death at other. He also had dog in box. He was married & had one little boy. He lived in a large town, & used to bring back much game. Sometimes he went off with a partner who lived in a nearby house, but a young slave told him that when absent this man slept with his wife. So now & his slave prepared to go hunting, but came back at night & crawled up to the back near back of sleepers. He heard wife talking to man, so scratched like mouse, woman told man to catch mouse & bite it over the heart. They both laughed. When both asleep he came in, cut off man's head without waking wife. Then she awoke, put arm out to embrace man, found his head to put arm round. She said nothing, took child & spoke it till it cried loudly. The grandfather awoke & asked why the child was weeping so, she said "Why not, it is all covered with blood!" ~~It~~ She took corpse out & dumped it on meeting-ground. Kept warning the parents of murdered man sent a brother to wake him, he was thought to be sleeping outside. Brother called, no answer, reported to parents. Another brother sent, hauled off blanket & saw headless corpse. Great commotion & decided that no human had done it. W had gone away after killing, came back paddling cheerfully. People told him to not to be so cheerful, his partner had been found headless. W had a sack, cooked seal-meat on top, at bottom kind of man with mouth & eyes propped open. W sent slave to pull plugs from canoes. Took sack to house, told wife to

issue out food to household, & told her that there was something she would like at bottom. She pulled out seal-meat expectantly, & finally saw head of man. She shrieked & said "Why, you have got what you wanted"! W took head and beat her with it between the legs, then fled to canoe. People yelled that w had slain his parties, & they started in pursuit. We were gaining so w put fog-box in stern & unloosed some, unmolested pursuers were confused in thick fog. Finally w came to a village, but only smoke coming from one house. W told slave to stay in canoe while W went to investigate. In house he saw a small fire with an old blind man cooking by fire over it. At one side of house a Q was working cedar-bark with back to door; how ~~misplaced~~ could not find some meat, told her that someone had taken it, she said "No. There is no one in the village". He said, "Well, come & get it" She turned round, saw W, & said "Yes, you have spoken truth for once". They welcomed W, called slave from canoe & gave them meat meat. We then asked for drink, : meat makes thirsty. "Sqamsbc" she said, "was in water of lake", hence no people in village". This is a creature which begins as a mouse, then grows very large, & sucks in water, sticks, people everything, just like leaves. All water in lake passed through it. Post mortems have been known in several places, there is now one at Dolls Lake. W. said to slave-boy, get a bottle for water, do not be afraid, I will go with you. Old man & I tried to dissuade them, told of great danger but unsuccessful. They left. Slave went ahead & was swallowed, & rose to top

in doing so. W took her stick, made several passes with death end & it died. It was bigger that whale, but as soon as cloack began to shrink. When reasonable size W cut open, saw body of slave made passes with life-end & came to life. Before, when giving food, old man asked W to marry his D because only two left. When boy brought to life ~~boat man & D~~ W made alive one of 3 digested bodies, wiped off W ~~them~~ of old way, ~~to take~~ & W told them to pick out their own family among half digested bodies in stomach of animal. Finally W made big sweep & brought them all ~~ashore~~ alive. Then they all followed W up to house. Not long after W went goat hunting. Saw bear & took on W's new wife was washing them on beach. Now black fish are fond of goat grease, & came in attracted by smell. One swallowed the Q. Some people saw her grabbed & called to W that (suit) had taken his wife. W took canoe with slave boy & started out down salt water. W followed black fish till they stopped spouting. Then he threw out anchor telling slave to guard rope very carefully & on W account to desert post. W went down rope. When he got down he found a very fine country & crawled out on beach near a village. Here a man was cutting fire wood. W hid himself in a hollow tree, & willed that man come to him. Presently man came to tree, drove old stone wedge into tree in usual vertical way. When wedge got through W broke it off. He said, "Gosh, that big-belled man will be angry." He repeated for two, still were alarmed at first & went on till all wedges broken. Then he sat down to food. W then came out of tree & rubbed each wedge believe

his hands & it become restored. Then he helped him fell tree ~~x~~ with wedges. W how friend of tree-feller & asked him if any strange q in town, telling him story. He said. "Oh was it your wife that (rust) brought, "she's in town where I live." It was now nearly night, & feller told W that when he returned at night they back him show water. "When I open door. look where your wife is" ~~sitting~~ when I come with water I will stumble with bucket on fire, thus putting out" He did this, W rushed in for wife, took her & rope & climbed up to slave & canoe. She was nothing but a skeleton, it had been a day below, but a year above & she had tired of starvation. W took life-stick, to speed home & they came to life. End.

(squeamish) used to live at Winter Bay, about 6 miles from here, it killed many people. There is not a small one in Ootsa Lake.

Up at a small lake near Ootsa Lake two boys went swimming a poor boy & an (Ayi'). The (Ayi') had a very fancy belt. He went in first, & swam out with belt before poor boy was ready. Poor boy was on point of entering when he heard a dreadful sucking, crackling noise. He called to swimmer to know if later heard. "Yes, but that's nothing", & swimmer thought noise got louder, & boy on bank called to swimmer, "Come back, come back, there is something bad here which I don't understand. Swimmer again said, "Nothing wrong". Finally as noise increased sticks & stone from bank flew out towards lake. Boy clutched tree with arms & legs flopped out like streamers. He was getting weak but wind went down before forced to drop. He looked around & (Ayi') had vanished. He reported loss to village. They refused to believe him, said he had killed (Ayi') & made him a prisoner, questioning him daily for a week. Then they decided to kill him. When he realized this he asked them to ~~pick~~ sing a suit of tight caribou skin on him & gave him a knife. He said "Come to lake with me". Thinking that might as well be killed by knife as by people. He swam out to centre & sang. Crackling & sucking sound began, soon people on shore had to clutch trees with flopping legs. When subsided they saw that boy had disappeared. Lake had been sucked into big whirlpool, began to grope around, & found corpse of (Ayi'). He cut off his belt & put

other mothers breasts. They ate meat & were soon dead. Old woman told girl to throw corpses into canyon, which she did. Old woman then told girl to fill box with food, grease, etc from wall, which she did & tied with skin rope & made rope handle. Then old woman told girl to give her a bundle of goat fur, rubbed it on leg & it became cord. Old told girl to take one end with her while she payed out & spun other end, otherwise you'd never be able to find way back. Girl did so, & reached home in evening, made noise outside house. Mother sent youngest child to find out house, she returned saying it was taken off by S. Mother wept & chided D for telling lies & raising hopes, sent next child, same story, & rushed out crying. As they went in she told S to bring in box, he could not lift it, nor when aided by friends. D said, "That's funny I can lift it with one hand, so carried it in." Opened box & took off food till house was half-full. She got (sneeze) power s i m sma (the name of power obtained from anything of tot thwola). They had feast & next day all followed rope to S—'s house. They were astounded at coppers & other wealth buried with

~~549~~ 550

it on. Groped to neck, cut hole & water came in. He closed out hole was very far down & almost drowned before reaching surface. Got ashore with belt & story believed. Soon after dead blast floated up

This happened within lifetime of Joshua, regarded as a true history, not a mere story.

In old days the tobacco was kinikinik (mostly) mixed with bark. ~~Pipes were tapboots~~ Pipes were pitted processes with bowls of elderberry wood. Sometimes no bowls, simply tube stuffed in hollow stem.

Formerly protection of slats of maple (& probably) or birch worn in battle, often reinforced with moose-skin. White stones down coast were called shields of Bella Coola.

Family of woman married keep looking after her e.g. if killed (by husband) they would revenge her. One case known of Indian killing wife, but he escaped after pursuit. Only case of selling wife, was of Kootenay sold to Kitkatla.

way up mountain, ~~(X)~~ 551 across a chasm bridged by a log, at far end of which was a cave, stuffed with coppers, ~~food / goods~~ & goods of deceased. In corner sat an old woman, who warned her not to eat anything, if so ~~to~~ roots would grow as with her & she be anchored. Old woman gave her a bag in which to conceal food instead of eating it. S— said "I am going out to get a sister for you." When S— out, old woman told her to put goat horns on fingers & when returned to ~~put them~~ open & close fingers at him & say sang a tz q ama. (meaning unknown, q ama = mother) When S— returning, girl held out hands at it when on the bridge. S. cried out in fear, "Look out, look out, you will hurt your grandmother" Girl continued, & S— fell down off log. Old woman told girl to take rope from wall, I will lower you down to S, cut off breasts, & shake rope so I will haul you up. "Be quick for S— children are out hunting. When she brought in breasts she put them in cooked them in grease box with food. Soon the S— children came in, they are wolves, they stared at girl, old woman said this is sister brought by your mother, she is after another. Old woman put meal before them, oldest child tasted it, & said, "Taste it, taste it, it's all

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